

**Discussion**  
**INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**  
**UT Thompson Conference Center**  
**2405 Robert Dedman Drive**  
**Room – 3.108**  
**Austin, Texas 78758**  
**March 2, 2011 - 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting of the Industry Advisory Committee (IAC) of the Texas Board OF Professional Engineers (Board) was called to Order by Acting Chair Coy Veach, P.E., on March 2, 2011, at approximately 10:05 a.m., at the Thompson Conference Center, Room – 3.120, Austin, TX

**1. Roll call and welcome visitors.**

Roxanne Pillar, P.E.	Huitt-Zollars, Inc.
Perfecto Solis, P.E.	DFWIA - CDP Satellite Office
Coy Veach, P.E.	Freese and Nichols
Jose I. Guerra, P.E.	Guerra Engineering Inc.

A quorum was not attainable, the following is a discussion and no action taken on any of the agenda items.

**Staff Present:**

Lance Kinney, P.E.	Executive Director
Dorothy Gonzales	Executive Assistant

**2. Public comment.** None

**ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION**

**3. Discuss and approve the minutes from the January 29, 2010, Industry Advisory Committee Meeting.**

The minutes were table due to no quorum. Minutes will be presented at the next scheduled IAC meeting.

Mr. Veach did mention to the Committee members present about a possible new appointment of officers. He added that Dr. Frailey's term has expired and has mentioned about electing a new chair for the Committee.

**4. Update on Issues from the Board.**

- **New Board Members.** Mr. Kinney reported that the Board attained two new Board members, and one current Board member was reappointed; Carry A. Baker from Amarillo, is the new public member, Lamberto "Bobby" Balli, P.E., is the new PE member, and Mr. James Greer, P.E. was reappointed to the Board.
- **Legislative Issues.** Mr. Kinney reported that the Board is tracking the current Bills related to the profession very closely. He commented that the deadline for filing Bills is March 11, 2011; except to local issues. Mr. Kinney shared the language in HB1164 filed by Representative Rupert regarding the exemption of cities and city employees of the state regarding enforcement by TBPE.

Mr. Veach shared with the Committee the language in HB628, the possible consolidation of all project procedure rules. He also commented that there are rumors of a possible Bill that would protect QVS but he has not seen anything at this time.

- **Rule Changes.** Mr. Kinney reported on all the rule changes that occurred between January 2010 and February 28, 2011. He mentioned that the Board signed an agreement with Engineers Canada. The requirements for a temporary license are similar to the Engineers Australia.
- **Structural Engineering 16 Hour Exam / Structural Engineering Licensure.** Mr. Kinney reported that a Task Force was initially formed by the Board to start the process for the 2011 implementation of the SE 16 hour exam. The Task Force met a couple of times, they elected a Chair, and the Board now only serves as a resource for the Task Force. Mr. Kinney reported that the examinees must pass the entire 16 hr exam. The next step for the Task Force is to change the language in the statute. The Texas Society of Professional Engineers (TSPE) is not in favor of the designation; and Texas Council for Engineering Companies does not have any business interest at this time. Mr. Guerra commented that the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) adopted a policy in favor of the SE designation. He added that several states recognize the SE designation in addition to the PE designation. Mr. Kinney did comment that Oklahoma is pursuing the SE designation but it really has no meaning. Mr. Veach asked on the number of exams given regarding construction management. Mr. Kinney responded that he did not have those numbers on hand. Mr. Veach suggested the possibility for the Board to consider writing a model law for construction managers. Construction managers are not licensed and no one wants another board or administration created.
- **International Licensure (Canada MRA).** Mr. Kinney mentioned that the Board signed a Mutual Recognition Agreement with Engineers Canada in October 2010. The agreement allows engineers from each jurisdiction to apply for a temporary license in each others' jurisdiction, pending they meet all the specified requirements for temporary license.
- **Joint Advisory Committee with Geoscientist (June MOU).** Mr. Kinney reported that the Board signed a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with the Texas Board of Geoscientist in June 2010. The agreement describes a process for handling overlap issues between the two professions. Both Boards have approved the MOU.
- **Software Engineering Licensure Consortium.** Mr. Kinney reported that at the NCEES 2009 annual meeting software engineering licensure was approved. NCEES is in the stages of developing an exam. The target date is 2013 for the initial testing. Now the Consortium will be looking at qualifications and definitions for Software Engineer license. He added that David Howell, P.E., Director of Licensing with the Board is the Texas liaison.
- **Computer Based Testing.** Mr. Kinney reported that he has been on the CBT Task Force for the last three years. CBT has been approved and will be implemented in 2013. The first CBT will be the FE. Prospective engineers seeking to take the FE exam may schedule with any testing center that will offer the FE. PVU was the selected vendor. They have a palm scan so ID requirement may be eliminated, and the possibility of collusion. The CBT will also show how much time is spent on each question. Mr. Kinney also mentioned that a question regarding the length of the exam (8hrs) was posed but no response was given. So, the other possibility is that the exam may be less than 8 hours.

- **Faithful Agent.** Mr. Kinney commented that this agenda item was to get feedback from advisory committee members regarding their thoughts about faithful agent. He gave a scenario regarding an enforcement case where the ALJ dropped the case because "faithful agent" was not clearly defined. The Committee's discussion included holding the contractor responsible for having this defined in the contract or expectation. Ms. Pillar commented that she likes the Canadian version and suggested it should serve as a model.

5. Discussion on Committee members/officers.

No action taken due to no quorum. The Committee did discuss the possibility for recruitment into the advisory Committee. Mr. Veach suggested expanding the region regarding representation, geographically, by discipline; the possibility of offering more webinar meetings. Mr. Solis suggested that the Committee should also include consultants, construction, and owners, each being unique perspectives to the Board. Mr. Kinney added that the Board Chair is looking at appointments and a liaison to the IAC will be appointed.

6. **Issues for discussion from Committee members.**

The Committee would like to discuss BS+30 at the EAC, IAC, and GAC joint meeting. Mr. Kinney reported that the last update was that the Task Force was asked to look at alternatives. There was no action taken at the National level regarding this issue. The implementation date is still 2012. The Committee members discussed possible considerations as the +30, i.e. soft skills, additional education, management programs, etc. Mr. Solis commented that young engineers should be strongly encouraged to become licensed engineers. There doesn't seem to be much encouragement by the universities. He added that at the joint meeting, a suggestion to get Deans take the role and encourage current students to get licensed.

The Committee members discussed the flyer by Dr. J. Nelson regarding licensure. The Committee suggested the following wording "Protect your future, get licensed". Mr. Kinney mentioned that NCEES has videos encouraging licensing. He will contact them and ask if they are willing to share and pass on to Jr. and Sr. high schools.

7. **Issues for consideration at next scheduled meeting.**

Possible webinar meeting. Mr. Veach commented that he did want face to face meetings. The Committee agreed that they should have no more than three face to face meetings per year. Mr. Veach agreed with the third meeting being the joint meeting with the EAC and GAC.

8. **Adjourn.**

Meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm

*Discussion*